

Response to Non-Final Office Action
Docket No. A0856**Amendments to the Claims**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

- 1 1. (previously presented): A method for selling information to a buyer, the method comprising:
 - 3 receiving an offer from a buyer for information wherein the offer includes at least one contingency that provides an uncertainty of an event related to the information occurring;
 - 6 providing the information from a seller in response to the offer, the information including at least one condition about the at least one contingency, wherein satisfaction of the at least one condition will resolve the uncertainty of the event occurring to satisfy at least one of the contingencies and will trigger at least part of a payment from the buyer, and wherein acceptance of the at least one condition forms a contract and the at least one condition is unsatisfied when the information is provided; and
 - 13 receiving the at least part of the payment upon the satisfaction of the at least one condition after the information has been provided to the buyer and the buyer has subsequently determined that the at least one condition has resolved the uncertainty of the event occurring to satisfy the at least one contingency.
- 1 2. (previously presented): The method as set forth in claim 1, further comprising receiving a base payment as the at least part of the payment when the information has been provided to the buyer.
- 1 3. (previously presented): The method as set forth in claim 1, further comprising adjusting an amount for the at least part of the payment based on a probability that the condition for the contingency will occur.

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1 4. (previously presented): The method as set forth in claim 3, further
2 comprising:

3 selecting an announced probability for the condition to resolve the
4 uncertainty to satisfy the contingency; and

5 determining the amount for the at least part of the payment based on a
6 function which uses the announced probability for the condition for the
7 contingency occurring.

1 5. (previously presented): The method as set forth in claim 4, wherein
2 the amount of the at least part of the payment is maximized when the announced
3 probability for the condition occurring is substantially the same as a true
4 probability for the condition occurring.

1 6. (previously presented): The method as set forth in claim 1, further
2 comprising setting the condition to resolve the uncertainty to satisfy the
3 contingency in the received offer.

1 7. (previously presented): The method as set forth in claim 6, further
2 comprising:

3 sending a counteroffer to the buyer based on the offer, the counteroffer
4 providing the condition set to resolve the uncertainty to satisfy the contingency to
5 the buyer; and

6 determining if the counteroffer with the condition set is accepted by the
7 buyer, wherein the information is only provided upon the condition set being
8 accepted.

1 Claim 8 (cancelled).

1 Claim 9 (cancelled).

1 10. (previously presented): The method as set forth in claim 1, wherein
2 one or more of the steps are carried out electronically.

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1 11. (previously presented): A system for selling information to a
2 buyer, the system comprising:

3 a receiving system that receives an offer from a buyer for information
4 wherein the offer includes at least one contingency that provides an uncertainty of
5 an event related to the information occurring;

6 a source for the information that provides the information in response to
7 the offer, the information including at least one condition about the at least one
8 contingency, wherein satisfaction of the at least one condition will resolve the
9 uncertainty of the event occurring to satisfy at least one of the contingencies and
10 will trigger at least part of a payment from the buyer, and wherein acceptance of
11 the at least one condition forms a contract and the at least one condition is
12 unsatisfied when the information is provided; and

13 a contingent payment processing system that receives the at least part of
14 the payment upon the satisfaction of the at least one condition after the
15 information has been provided to the buyer and the buyer has subsequently
16 determined that the at least one condition has resolved the uncertainty of the event
17 occurring to satisfy the at least one contingency.

1 12. (previously presented): The system as set forth in claim 11, further
2 comprising a base payment processing system that receives a base payment as the
3 at least part of the payment when the information has been provided.

1 13. (previously presented): The system as set forth in claim 11,
2 wherein the contingency payment processing system adjusts an amount for the at
3 least part of the payment based on a probability that the condition to resolve the
4 uncertainty to satisfy the contingency occurs.

1 14. (previously presented): The system as set forth in claim 13,
2 wherein the contingency payment processing system selects an announced
3 probability to resolve the uncertainty to satisfy the condition for the contingency

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4 and a function for determining the amount for the at least part of the payment
5 based on the announced probability for the condition for the contingency
6 occurring.

1 15. (previously presented): The system as set forth in claim 14,
2 wherein the contingency payment processing system maximizes the amount of the
3 contingent payment when the announced probability for the condition occurring is
4 substantially the same as a true probability for the condition occurring.

1 16. (previously presented): The system as set forth in claim 11, further
2 comprising a condition setting system which sets the condition to resolve the
3 uncertainty to satisfy the contingency in the received offer.

1 17. (previously presented): The system as set forth in claim 16, further
2 comprising:

3 a counteroffer system that sends a counteroffer to the buyer based on the
4 offer, the counteroffer provides the condition set to resolve the uncertainty to
5 satisfy the contingency to the buyer; and

6 purchase decision system that determines if the counteroffer with the
7 condition set is accepted by the buyer, wherein the information is only provided
8 upon the condition set being accepted.

1 Claim 18 (cancelled).

1 Claim 19 (cancelled).

1 20. (previously presented): The system as set forth in claim 11,
2 wherein the receiving system receives the offer and the source of the information
3 provides the information electronically.

1 21. (previously presented): A computer readable medium having
2 stored instructions for selling contingent information which when executed by a
3 processor, causes the processor to perform:

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4 receiving an offer from a buyer for information wherein the offer includes
5 at least one contingency that provides an uncertainty of an event related to the
6 information occurring;

7 providing the information from a seller in response to the offer, the
8 information including at least one condition about the at least one contingency,
9 wherein satisfaction of the at least one condition will resolve the uncertainty of
10 the event occurring to satisfy at least one of the contingencies and will trigger at
11 least part of a payment from the buyer, and wherein acceptance of the at least one
12 condition forms a contract and the at least one condition is unsatisfied when the
13 information is provided; and

14 receiving the at least part of the payment upon the satisfaction of the at
15 least one condition after the information has been provided to the buyer and the
16 buyer has subsequently determined that the at least one condition has resolved the
17 uncertainty of the event occurring to satisfy the at least one contingency.

1 22. (previously presented): The medium as set forth in claim 22,
2 further comprising receiving a base payment as the at least part of the payment
3 when the information has been provided to the buyer.

1 23. (previously presented): The medium as set forth in claim 22,
2 further comprising adjusting an amount for the at least part of the payment based
3 on an announced probability that the condition to resolve the uncertainty to satisfy
4 the contingency will occur.

1 24. (previously presented): The medium as set forth in claim 23,
2 further comprising:
3 selecting the announced probability for the condition for the contingency;
4 and
5 determining the amount for the at least part of the payment based on a
6 function which uses the announced probability for the condition for the
7 contingency occurring.

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1 25. (previously presented): The medium as set forth in claim 24,
2 wherein the amount of the at least part of the payment is maximized when the
3 announced probability for the condition occurring is substantially the same as a
4 true probability for the condition occurring.

1 26. (previously presented): The medium as set forth in claim 21,
2 further comprising setting the condition to resolve the uncertainty to satisfy the
3 contingency in the received offer.

1 27. (previously presented): The medium as set forth in claim 26,
2 further comprising:
3 sending a counteroffer to the buyer based on the offer, the counteroffer
4 providing the condition set to resolve the uncertainty to satisfy the contingency to
5 the buyer; and
6 determining if the counteroffer with the condition set is accepted by the
7 buyer, wherein the information is only provided upon the condition set being
8 accepted.

1 Claim 28 (cancelled).

1 Claim 29 (cancelled).

1 30. (previously presented): The medium as set forth in claim 21,
2 wherein one or more of the steps are carried out electronically.

1 31. (previously presented): The method as set forth in claim 1, wherein
2 the information from the seller in response to the offer is provided without a
3 payment from the buyer.

1 32. (previously presented): The system as set forth in claim 11,
2 wherein the information from the seller in response to the offer is provided
3 without a payment from the buyer.

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- 1 33. (previously presented): The medium as set forth in claim 21,
- 2 wherein the information from the seller in response to the offer is provided
- 3 without a payment from the buyer.